

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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11

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OPR-02 SYE-00 EUR-12 /030 W

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O P 111004Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY

/AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY 8806

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1056

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 6107

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, ASUP, SY

SUBJECT: DAMASCUS-BEIRUT CONVOYS

REFS: (A) BEIRUT 6089 (NOTAL), (B) DAMASCUS 4451 (NOTAL),
(C) DAMASCUS 4435 (NOTAL)

1. POST REQUESTS THAT DAMASCUS PLAN FOR CONVOY ON WEDNESDAY
JULY 14. THIS CONVOY SHOULD CONSIST OF BOTH ARMORED CARS
DRIVEN BY FSO MURPHY AND S/A PROVYN AND THE THREE (3)
BEIRUT EXPRESS TRUCKS LOADED WITH BEIRUT SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT.

2. WE DO NOT UNDERSTAND PARA 2 OF REFTTEL B CONCERNING POSSIBILITY
OF BRAKE FAILURE. HOWEVER, IT IS REQUESTED THAT SEABEES APPLE
AND MCVAY CHECK THESE VEHICLES PRIOR TO THEIR DEPARTURE AND
THAT MURPHY BE BRIEFED IN THE USE OF LOW GEAR FOR DESCENTS ON
MOUNTAIN ROADS. UNLESS THERE IS AN UNFORESEEN MECHANICAL
FAILURE WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE ANY PROBLEMS IN DRIVING THE TWO
VEHICLES TO BEIRUT. POST HAS NO FACILITIES TO OFF LOAD ANY
VEHICLES FROM BEIRUT EXPRESS TRUCKS.

3. THE ESCORT WITH RSO O'BRIEN WILL MEET THE CONVOY ON THE
ROAD BETWEEN NABITIYEH AND MARJAYOUN. THE ESCORT WILL NOT
REPEAT NOT MEET THE CONVOY AT THE LAST SYRIAN CHECK POINT. THE
CONVOY WILL BE REQUIRED TO TRAVEL SEVERAL MILES WITHOUT ESCORT
BETWEEN THE SYRIAN LINES AND THE RENDEZVOUS POINT.

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4. POST PLANS TO SEND OUT TO DAMASCUS ON THE SAME DAY, WEDNESDAY JULY 14, FSOS SIVER AND SMITH, MSGS DUGAN AND STRINGER AND ATTACHE ASSISTANT OWENS. THESE FIVE (5) OFFICIAL AMERICANS WILL BE TRAVELING IN EMBASSY DAMASCUS VEHICLE PLUS ONE (1) EMBASSY BEIRUT VEHICLE AND MR. WARING'S POV. THEY WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY TWO BRITISH EMBASSY BEIRUT VEHICLES CONTAINING ONE BRITISH EMBASSY EMPLOYEE AND THREE OTHER BRITISH CITIZENS. RSO O'BRIEN AND ESCORT WILL CONVOY THESE INDIVIDUALS TO THE RENDEZVOUS POINT AND AWAIT THE ARRIVAL OF THE INCOMING CONVOY. BRIEUT PARTY WILL PROCEED ON THEIR OWN TO THE SYRIAN LINES. DAMASCUS IS REQUESTED TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO MEET BEIRUT PARTY AT SYRIAN LINES IN MARJAYION AND PROVIDE ESCORT TO DAMASCUS.

5. TSO ALLEN IS REQUESTED TO HOLD IN DAMASCUS PENDING RECEIPT OF SEPTTEL CONCERNING MOVEMENTS OF SY PERSONNEL.

6. WE WILL CONFIRM IN SEPTTEL THAT ESCORT IN LEBANON HAS BEEN ARRANGED AND GIVE YOUR TIME FOR CROSSING.
SEELYE

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NNN

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